



# Northshore HOG News

ISSUE 113

JUNE 2014

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 07 Jun 09:30 am - Chapter Meeting  
11:00 am - Lunch Ride to  
5 Guys Burgers, Covington
- 18 July 6:00 pm - LOH Ride  
Armond's, Chalmette, LS
- 29 Aug 6:00 pm - LOH Ride  
Shaggy's, Pass Christian, MS

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2014 Officers	2
From Your Interim Director	2
June Birthdays	2
HOG Meeting Minutes	4
SE LA VA Cemetery Grand Opening	4
May Trip Photos	6
New Harley Em- blems	6
LOH Bling Party / Poker Game	6
Newest Northshore HOG Members	7
Remember Director Election Reminder	7
Additional Vietnam Moving Wall Photos	8

## The Talimena Rally

By Ray Gregg

The Talimena Rally is a rally to raise funds for the St Jude Children's Hospital.

It was 430 in the morning and cold and foggy....that was what all of us (Bob, Judy, Sonia, Bill, Karl, Frank, Lara and I) had to contend with when we left our homes in Slidell and Bogalusa. Since we had made plans to ride with HOG members from the Gulf Coast chapter (Karen, Steve, Amanda, John, Jean, David, Esther and Rodger), we all gathered in Hattiesburg for breakfast. Lead by Steve Williams, we headed for Texarkana. After stops at the Harley dealerships in Monroe and Shreveport (and lunch) we arrived at our destination; the Holiday Inn/Convention Center. Upon arrival, we met with the Talimena Rally promoter Neil Jones, registered and enjoyed



the pizza provided by the rally sponsors. Then, as all agreed, we headed for bed early after the approximate 450 mile day.

It was up early for breakfast (0630), then attended a safety briefing (0730) for the

[See The Talimena Rally on Page 3](#)

## Northshore HOGS Escort Vietnam Moving Wall

By Richard Dillon

Before I write about the moving experience escorting the Vietnam Moving Wall had on those of us that participated, I need to reminisce for a minute. Most of us are old enough to remember a radio announcer we listened to growing up named "Paul Harvey." Think about they way he ended his show while you read the following article.

Thursday, 15 May 2014, Northshore HOG Chapter members participated in the parade to escort the Vietnam Moving Wall down Williams Blvd from the Ponchatrain Center to Veteran's Park in Kenner, Louisiana.

We met at Mike Bruno's Harley Davidson and rode to the Ponchatrain Center where they linked up with the Vietnam Moving Wall, Patriot Guard Riders (PGR), Veterans, and the Kenner Police.



After a short wait and mission brief the parade began to escort the Vietnam Moving Wall to Veteran's Park.

[See The Vietnam Moving Wall on Page 3](#)

## 2014 Officers

### **Sponsor**

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### **Chaplain**

Russ Davis 504-201-2872

## From Your Interim Director

"Ride and have fun". It is what has kept my bride of 43 years, Robin, and I "Happy HOGs" for 11 years now. We enjoyed riding as 'loners' for a year or so before a good friend told us that we should 'check HOG membership out'. Reflecting on the time before HOG, it is clear now that we didn't know what we were missing. We have met lots of great people through HOG; many of which are now cherished friends. HOG activities have been first class: Chapter events, state and national rallies foster camaraderie envied by all other motorcycle brands—and organizations. That camaraderie has been a catalyst for many "non-HOG" trips with friends met through the Chapter. Smaller groups, and more personal social interaction that often is a better schedule fit. Big or small—'official' or not; being HOG members has enhanced our motorcycle enthusiast experience.

In our 10 years in this Chapter, we recognize that lots of hard work has gone into keeping this organization true to the "Ride and Have Fun" mission. The work of past officers, too numerous to mention here have paved the way. My 3 month tenure as interim director is simply a 'blip' in that history. Our next director will carry on a tradition of serving others,

with the backing of our supportive Dealer Sponsor, Mike Bruno's Harley Davidson. Owner Mike Bruno and general manager/partner Marc Dougherty are 100% committed to our success. This is our 'home'. When I visit Mike Bruno's Harley Davidson, I see friendly faces at every turn. Service Manager Robert Clifton, Fozzie in parts, Rick in Sales....and every employee, the good vibes abound. I hope that you will share my enthusiasm and join us in the celebration of riding our Harley Davidson motorcycles in the Northshore HOG Chapter here at Mike Bruno's Harley Davidson. Let's "Ride and Have Fun".

Ward



## June Birthdays

Cathy Newman  
Johnny Pons





### The Talimena Rally from Page 1

Friday ride. KSU at 0800. Traveling Hwy 278 to Nashville then Hwy27 and US70 to Glenwood we stopped at the Fish Net for a delicious lunch buffet. From Glenwood we took Hwy8, Hwy84 and US70 to Dierks and then back to Texarkana via US70 and Hwy71. The ride took us approximately 198 miles through rolling hills and gentle winding back roads with very little traffic to contend with. Back in Texarkana, the Slidell group broke off from the rally group to find a Starbucks...a standard for many, after a long ride. That evening, an excellent BBQ rib meal (again provided by the rally) ending with a live band, Crooked Halo. Since many of us were not that fond of the style of music (or of the volume), we migrated to the outside lounge area, where we swapped lies, told jokes and enjoyed various spirits. Saturday was somewhat of a repeat of Friday, except breakfast was provided by Burger King and McDonalds, then the safety briefing, then the start of the ride.

This time we were headed for Rich Mountain and Queen Wilhelmina State Park. It was 70 miles from Texarkana to DeQueen, 46 more to Mena and only a few miles from Mena to the park. Once arriving at the park, some of our group left for the Oklahoma border to get photos for the ABC challenge. I should mention that Rich Mountain has an elevation of about 2650 feet making the mountain range the highest elevation between the Appalachians and the Rockies. And because of that, the roads traveled were beautiful, cool and winding.....even more so than the day before. Once the box lunches were consumed, we were off again to return to Texarkana. Although returning through Mena and DeQueen, difference roads were taken for a change of scenery. We wrapped up 238 miles this day and were back at the hotel just in time to get ready for the nightly festivities, which included a Catfish dinner, sponsored by Serenity Hospice, drawing of tickets (prizes and 50/50), the points winner from the day's ride, *which was won by our own Judy Anderson*, and another live band (Dusty Rose). In addition there was an auction for several items given by local sponsors. Before long, we all found our way back to the out-



side lounge area for more conversation, more laughter and more spirits. During the course of the evening, someone brought out some Mississippi moonshine that all had to partake to seal the comradery we all experienced.

On Sunday, some of the groups needed to head back home that day while others decided to make the trip in two days. Some went south to Lafayette and then home, others stayed while other headed east through back roads in Arkansas and then down through Louisiana.

I must comment on the organization of the rally itself. Rarely have I seen the coordination experienced on this ride. All major towns along each route were contacted and had police at the ready to escort us through major intersections and in some cases through the entire town. Because of this, the rides were exceptional in accommodating the 89 to 120 bikes that participated. I believe that our Chapter members should consider placing this rally on their calendar for next year. It is an outstanding cause and where else could you get five meals, two live bands, and two rally shirts for \$60?

***Additional pictures are on page 6.***

### The Vietnam Moving Wall from Page 1

When we arrived at Veteran's Park, we began walking toward where the Vietnam Moving Wall was to be set up and came upon the boat pictured to the right. Bill got all excited and said; "that's like the boat I was on in Vietnam." He told us it was a PBR River Patrol Board with twin 50 cal's in the front, 60 mm machine guns in the middle, one on each side, and an M79 grenade launcher in the back. He said they'd patrol the river during the day and that when it got dark, that they'd park along the side of the river and set up claymore mines on the bank so no one could sneak up on them until it was too late. He said they'd wait for a major river crossing or troop movement "and then light-um-up." While we were talking Ward asked Bill where he was (on the boat), and Bill said; "where do you think? I was up front on the twin 50's. I wanted to be where all the fire power was if we got in a fire fight."

***And now you know the rest of the story.***



# Northshore #2147 HOG Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2014

Northshore 2147 HOG® Meeting

Location: Mike Bruno's Northshore Harley Davidson Dealership, Slidell, LA

In attendance were the following 2014 officers:

Interim Director – Ward Blakeman  
 Asst. Director – Chip Newman Absent  
 Treasurer – Buddy Newman Absent  
 Secretary – Judy Anderson  
 Web Master - Karl Fox  
 Activities Officer –Bill Anderson  
 Ladies of Harley – Sonja Fox  
 Head Road Captain – Simon Gonzales  
 Safety Officer – Russ Davis  
 Membership Officer – Frank Lay  
 Photographer – Karl Fox  
 Chaplain – Russ Davis  
 Editor - Richard Dillon  
 Historian – Dwight Bradbury

Meeting called to order: 9:30am

Pledge of Allegiance: Richard Dillon

Prayer led by: Russ Davis

Meeting was brought to order with the introduction of Mike Bruno, owner of Northshore Harley Davidson and Bayou County Harley Davidson in Houma. Mike gave a brief overview of his years with Harley Davidson. Mike also explain the reason for being there was to regretfully make a move he has only done once before and that is to remove the HOG Director Dan Schewe, from our HOG Chapter. Mike asked Ward Blakeman to serve as interim director and Ward accepted, this interim should only be 60 to 90-days. During this time nominations will be accepted, then an election will be perform by the HOG chapter and a new director will be appointed.

Mike open the floor for questions, there were several and he was also asked to reconsider at a later date which Mike said he would.

Guest Speaker: Brian (GM of Slidell Hooters) the first 10 months were a little rocky but now things are coming together and we are going to be sponsoring Bike nights we are about one month away from our first one, we will be having bike washes, car washes and of course good food and drinks.

Dealer Guest Speaker: Jason, Sales Manager, purchases of motorcycles from our dealership is very important, it shows support of the dealership, opportunity for past business, all we are really saying is please give us the opportunity to get your business, and if we aren't meeting your expectations please talk with Mark Dougherty or Mike Bruno.

Ward Blakeman, addressed the chapter members informing them of his purpose and role as the interim director. His mission is to assist and provide direction during an interim period of 90 days. We will take nominations for our new Chapter Director at our next meeting Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup>. A special election will take place at our July 5<sup>th</sup> meeting where we will elect our new Director.

Minutes for the month of March 2014, were approved as presented.

Ward Blakeman, presented the treasury report for March and April.

Ward Blakeman, gave report for Chip Newman - Assistant Director; explained how to use the membership cards. If you do not have one please see one of the primary officers. If you have any further questions please ask one of the primary officers.

Frank Lay, Membership: Look forward to having a new members meet and greet event at the dealership, and new member rides. The dealership has promised to pay for the food if any, and to be part of the new member out reach.

We need our members to step up to the plate and be the ambassador for that new member you see in our mix. Walk up to them introduce yourself, ask what they ride, ask how long have they been riding? Are they use to group riding? It really makes a world of difference to the new member that hardly knows anyone.

Birthdays:

## April

Elaine "Betty" Cole

Mark Jimison

Susan Schaefer

Bob Signs

Robert Wilson, Jr.

Johnny Wyatt

## May

Richard Dillon

Valerie Dillon

Marty McCutcheon

Tony Saucier

Mike Sperry

Bill Anderson, Activities Director: Started by showing gifts received from the Harley Davidson HOG ABC competition for 2013, after submission of 70 points. Then he covered the rides that our group completed in March and April, to include the destination, number of motorcycles and number of total riders for each trip. Our ride for 3 May was to Margaretville Casino in Biloxi. 23 riders went on this ride and we met 6 riders from the Biloxi Chapter. Several of the group stopped by Coast Harley Davidson and then we continued to Dairy Queen in Diamond Head for a sweet stop. On Sunday, 4 May, Bill, Judy and

Darla road to Henderson to meet up with several other Chapters from around the state for the kickoff ride of Women Riders Month. We joined up with 87 motorcycles and 137 total riders for a ride through the bayou to Pat's Restaurant for lunch. Following lunch we road to Scott, Louisiana to pick up some boudin from Billy's. Upcoming events – DON'T FORGET – May 17<sup>th</sup> is a crawfish boil and Veterans Festival at Mike Bruno's Northshore Harley Davidson, and the East St Tammany Habitat for Humanity 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Louisiana Veterans Festival at the Northshore Harbor Center; and, our Ladies of Harley ride to Biloxi and lunch at Hog Heaven BBQ – recently renamed to Slap Ur Momma BBQ!

Ward mentioned that during our last meeting a guest speaker, Mr. Wimbai Mutoonono of Legacy Youth Development Institute of Slidell provided a brief summary of the organization and the support they give to troubled students on the Northshore. He provided several "good news" stories on the organization and requested donation support. The cost for one student is \$125.00, and we pledged to support the program. Ward recommended that we support 5 students at a cost of \$625.00. His recommendation was seconded and approved. Our donation will be forwarded to Mr. Mutoonono when Buddy Newman returns from his trip...

With the lunch ride today we will be going to The Harley Davidson on Cedar Lake Road, Biloxi, in support of their MDA (Muscular Dystrophy Association) fund raiser. Johnny Wyatt asked if we could give a donation to the fund, it was accepted and seconded.

The amount was \$200.00. The check will be written as soon as Buddy Newman the Treasurer returns from his Bourbon Run.

Karl Fox - Web Master/Photographer. New members need to be made aware of the DVD that we have that covers group riding. Gaining an understanding of the "how to" will enhance everyone's ride. For example: we have encountered situations where we get gaps in the formation at traffic lights. When we were split up, I would pull over to wait for the rest, but they would wave at me and continue on. (The correct action is for the lead of those 'catching up' to proceed at a slower than normal pace, flash lights to the person (s) waiting, and allow them to resume the original order of riders in the group). We have opportunity to do a better job on the pre-ride. Frank gave Anna, who is new to group riding, very effective personal instruction on group riding. We should adopt this practice, and have an experienced rider coach new riders 'one on one'. Additionally, questions or areas of concern can be addressed one on one.

Sonia Fox - Meet at the dealership Saturday, May 31, 2014 KSU @ 3:00 PM ride to Biloxi and lunch at Hog Heaven BBQ – recently renamed to Slap Ur Momma BBQ!

The 50/50 was won by Larry Landrum.

## *To Honor Those Who Served*



### ***Northshore HOG Chapter*** *Cordially Invited To Ride In The* ***Grand Opening Ceremony*** *Southeast LA Veterans Cemetery, Slidell, LA* *Hosted by LA Department of Veterans Affairs* ***Thursday, June 12, 2014*** ***12:15 p.m.*** ***Reception to Follow***

The Patriot Guard Riders (PGR) have been asked to kick off the ceremony with a roaring start and has asked the Northshore HOG chapter if members would like to join them in the parade. Anyone that wants to participate needs to meet at the north end of the Northshore Square Mall behind Sears no-later-than (NLT) 11:30 am. The plan is to depart the rally point at 12:00 (noon) to enable the last rider to enter the cemetery and park NLT than 12:15. Immediately following the parade the guest speaker will formally begin the ceremony.



## May Trip To Margaritaville



## New Harley Emblems

*Four Of The Eight New Harley Davidson Emblems.  
Check Them Out At The Harley Davidson Internet Home Page*



## LOH Bling Party / Poker Game & Pot-Luck



**Robin & Ward Blakeman are hosting a LOH Bling Party & Poker Game from at**

**When:** Saturday, 28 June 2014 @ 3—6 pm.

**Where:** 30160 Red Mill Drive, Lacombe, La. / Phone 985-290-8147.

- Request participants bring a dish to share. Sonia Fox (985-707-4451) is the POC to coordinate dishes.
- Sodas/water/coffee will be provided.
- If you choose, feel free to bring your favorite beverage!
- Pool/hot tub--so bring your swimsuit. (Please no glass containers in the pool area because of the dangers they pose.)

### Directions:

- I-10 North to I-12 West. Take Exit 80 & turn left onto Airport Road.
- Drive south on Airport Road & turn right onto Highway 190.
- Drive west past Briar Lake Subdivision. You'll see Demco electric motor company on the left followed by a curve sign posted on the right shoulder. Slow down & turn right on Dresden street into the "Oak Mill" subdivision (green sign, with gold letters). As you enter the subdivision the street will curve right. Continue down Dresden until you pass Berlin Lane. The road will make a hard right turn. Take the next left onto Bumper Street. Go one block then turn Right onto E Springmill Drive. The road will curve left. Take the first left onto Red Mill Drive. Robin and Ward live in the second house on the left. (Doe colored 2 story with brown roof)

# Newest Northshore HOG Members



Anna Rinaldo



Joy Mehrstens



Rick Jacob



Brian Neal

## Remember

Director Nominations  
Elections

7 June 2014  
5 July 2014



# Additional Vietnam Moving Wall Photos

